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ask, and I will sit down and discuss it with you some time, but I do not want to embarrass foreign relations by making statements which might be misunderstood and create offense where none is meant to be given.

Then you are confronted with this situation: When the Secretary of the Navy is asked to tell us whether we should build more battleships, why he believes it is necessary, he declines to give any reason on the ground that it might get into the newspapers.

Mr. Chairman, the Secretary of the Navy has not only declined to give any reason to the committee and the committee has not only no reason to give to this House which it got from the experts, or in the evidence before us, but the Secretary of the Navy has plainly told us that we did have about as many battleships as we need. He was asked this question:

Mr. GREGG: Twenty-one in the first line.

Secretary MEYER: The ideal number which the Navy Department hopes to work up to is a fleet of 41 battleships, with necessary auxiliaries, 21 in the active fleet and 20 in the reserve fleet.

According to that statement of Secretary Meyer, the ideal number of battleships is 41, and we already have 38.

Again, on page 21 of his annual report, the Secretary uses this language:

A total of 41 battleships, with a proportional number of other fighting and auxiliary vessels is, in the opinion of the Secretary, the least that will place this country on a safe basis in its relations with other world powers. This number should be reached as soon as practicable, and then the fleet should be kept up to its standard strength by replacing obsolete vessels with new ones by a uniform yearly replacement program.

In other words, Mr. Chairman, the Secretary of the Navy himself refutes the idea that we must have a yearly program and continue to build battleships every year. He clearly tells us there is a limit to the number of battleships beyond which it is useless to go. He fixes this limit at 41, and declares that is the ideal number, but he declines to give us any reason at all why 38 is not just as ideal as 41, and I think it would be an impossibility for any human being to sit down and figure out and prove how 41 battleships with 30 more guns on them would do any more good than 38 with 232. The truth is that we have long since passed the ideal number of battleships that could be effectively used in a battle, and the building of more is a useless waste of the people's money.

Now, I want to call the attention of the House to the fact that in 1905, at the time the Secretary of the Navy advised Congress that our fleet was then sufficient to provide for all contingencies within the range of probability and at the same time when the President of the United States in his message informed Congress that the units of the Navy should not be increased, our Navy consisted of 24 battleships, 12 completed and 12 under the process of construction. Since that time we have constructed 1 more battleship and 13 *dreadnoughts*, which have more guns and more powerful guns, and which more than double the capacity of the Navy. If a Republican President and a Republican Secretary of the Navy believed, as they said they believed in 1905, that our Navy was sufficient to provide for everything

within the range of possibilities, and that the units should not be increased, and if since then we have more than doubled our Navy, then I ask Democrats if they think we ought to add still more to it? [Applause.]

(Concluded next month.)

### Book Notices.

THE PEACE MOVEMENT OF AMERICA. By Julius Moritz. New York: G. P. Putnam's Sons. 419 pages, octavo. With 64 illustrations.

This book is unique among peace works. It is written from the point of view of the journalist. It treats the subject as news. It presents in a picturesque way some recent incidents in the movement in this country—the signing of the arbitration treaties with Great Britain and France; the great services of President Taft to the cause of arbitration; the visits to this country of Count Apponyi, Baron d'Estournelles de Constant, and the Baroness von Suttner; the creation of new peace societies and the federation of the peace organizations of the country in the American Peace Society; the beginnings of peace propaganda in the South; the work of the Pan-American Union, etc. Mr. Moritz deals in a fresh, live way with nearly all the current American questions which bear upon the problem of international harmony—the neutralization of the Panama Canal; the problems of the Rio Grande border; the "Yellow Peril" myth, etc. In the treatment of these various subjects he uses copious extracts from the speeches made and the newspaper opinions published in connection with them. "No Creed in Brotherhood" and "The Farmer as a Peace Ally" are fine chapters, in which the organization of peace work in Utah, Nebraska, and South Dakota is set forth. Chapters are devoted to the work and recent reorganization of the American Peace Society, to the World Peace Foundation, the American School Peace League, the Monhon Arbitration Conference, and the United States Group of the Interparliamentary Union. But it would be impossible merely to mention all the valuable things in the book without quoting nearly the whole of it. Mr. Moritz has collected with much labor and care and the fullest sympathy with the cause, the important facts connected with the peace movement in this country in recent years, and almost without exception his statements are accurate and reliable. His "Peace Movement of America" ought to find its place on the peace shelves of all libraries which pretend to give information and guidance on this great and rapidly growing cause.

THE BALKAN WAR. Adventures of War with Cross and Crescent. By Philip Gibbs and Bernard Grant. Boston: Small, Maynard and Company. 241 pages. Price, postpaid, \$1.35.

This book makes no pretense of being written from the standpoint of the pacifists. But the reading of it will make any man of clear intelligence and moral sensitiveness realize more deeply perhaps than ever before the utterly barbarous character and moral as well as physical loathsomeness of war. The two correspondents, one representing the London *Graphic* and the other the *Daily Mirror*, succeeded, in spite of the severe